

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of rendering a material hydrophilic, said method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing a material comprised of hydrophobic or borderline hydrophilic components, ~~wherein said material is at least a portion of an absorbent article;~~
 - (b) increasing the surface energy of said material ~~applying a high energy surface treatment to said material to form a treated material;~~ and
 - (c) applying a plurality of nanoparticles to said material having an increased surface energy;wherein a bodily exudate absorbing article comprises said material.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said material comprises a textile such as a nonwoven material comprised of hydrophobic or borderline hydrophilic structural components.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein at least some of the structural components of said material are at least partially comprised of a polyolefin.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3 wherein at least some of the structural components of said material are at least partially comprised of polyethylene.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3 wherein at least some of the structural components of said material are at least partially comprised of polypropylene.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of increasing the surface energy of said material is performed by ~~high energy surface treatment applied in step (b) comprises~~ a treatment selected from the group consisting of: corona discharge treatment; plasma treatment; UV radiation; ion beam treatment; and electron beam treatment; laser treatment; and combinations thereof.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein said ~~at least some of said nanoparticles are selected from the group consisting of~~ comprise one or more of the following: non-photoactive nanoparticles, photoactive nanoparticles, and passified photoactive nanoparticles, and combinations thereof.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein after step (c), the surface of the treated material becomes hydrophilic having an advancing contact angle with water of less than 90° after 30 seconds of spreading.
- 9-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein said absorbent article is selected from the group consisting of diapers, incontinence products, and catamenial products.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein said portion is selected from the group consisting of topsheets, acquisition layers, distribution layers, wicking layers, storage layers, absorbent cores, absorbent core wraps, containment structures, and combinations thereof.
- 14-23. (Cancelled)
24. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the material with nanoparticles applied thereto exhibits a liquid strike-through time less than or equal to about 10 seconds after three 5 mL gushes of a test liquid according to a Strike Through Test.
25. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the material with nanoparticles applied thereto exhibits a liquid strike-through time less than or equal to about 6 seconds after three 5 mL gushes of a test liquid according to a Strike Through Test.
26. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the material with nanoparticles applied thereto exhibits a liquid strike-through time less than or equal to about 3 seconds after three 5 mL gushes of a test liquid according to a Strike Through Test.
27. (New) The hydrophilic material produced according to the process of Claim 1.